

10/2/2009

/C.A.M./

/A.J.F./ Application No.: 10/538,879

Docket No.: SONYJP 3.3-1038

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) An electronic apparatus having one or more functions on which use limitations can be imposed, comprising

~~a including:~~

a processor operable to execute said one or more functions;

storage operable to store contents of use limitations for said one or more functions, the processor being operable to reference a representation of said contents of use limitations stored in said storage to determine said contents of use limitations for said one or more functions, and being operable to execute said one or more functions only as permitted by said contents of use limitations; and

an infrared light receiving unit operable to receive use-permitting key information transmitted by infrared communication, wherein the use-permitting key information is from a source of use permission which transmitted the use-permitting key information over a network, and wherein said contents of use limitations are derived from said use-permitting key information.

2. (previously presented) The electronic apparatus according to claim 1 wherein said contents of use limitations represent at least one of a number of days said one or more functions are permitted to be executed, a number of times said one or more functions are permitted to be executed, or a time period in which said one or more functions are permitted to be executed.

3. (previously presented) The electronic apparatus according to claim 2 further comprising